



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter February 2022

Hi BACS members,

With Valentine's Day at the heart of February, it seems appropriate to celebrate love this month. This newsletter begins and ends with that motif. Whether it's the creative cards made by BACS crafters or the imaginative works of countless artists through the ages, love is a truly irresistible focus for those who create. Enjoy, and remember to spread the love this month.

--*Sylvia*

Love (1967), screen print by Robert Indiana (1928-2018)



This Month's Artist Demo . . . Sign Up by February 7!

On Tuesday, February 15, starting at 6:45 p.m., nationally known artist **Lisa Daria Kennedy** will live-demo an acrylic painting featuring a still life subject. She will talk about her tools, techniques, and daily painting practice. Participants are invited to paint along with Lisa as she demos.



Bilge by Lisa Daria Kennedy

The program will take place via Zoom. To sign up to receive the Zoom link the day before the demo, simply send an e-mail to RSVP@bacsma.org by Monday, February 7. Mark your calendar so that you don't miss what will surely be an exciting presentation! This program is funded in part by a grant from the Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Save the Date! March Gelli-Plate Printing and Collage Workshop with Taline

Heads up! We're **delighted** to announce that our own **Taline Saatjian** will be presenting a Gelli-Plate Printing and Collage workshop next month. A modest registration fee will cover the cost of a small gelli plate and other materials. Participants will take home the gelli plate, other materials, and any artwork they create. What a deal!



Watch for the formal announcement and the sign-up info in the coming weeks. It's particularly good news that Covid rates are continuing to fall, meaning that we can look forward to this in-person workshop with some measure of peace of mind.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn from a terrific artist. Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 12, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. We'll gather in the Vestry Room at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, 25 The Great Road, Bedford. Again, look for additional details to follow! This program is funded in part by a grant from the Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Wednesday Crafting, 2:00-4:00 p.m. each week

BACS members continue to gather for crafting on Wednesdays, 2:00-4:00 p.m., via Zoom. **Marita Hartshorn** has noted that attendance is down now that Zooming has become a necessity due to the Omicron surge. She welcomes your ideas for projects that would work well via Zoom, as well as your general wish list. Speak to Marita with your thoughts! Needless to say, we all hope to resume in-person meetings soon now that the Covid rates are falling.



Hats for the food pantry: Crafters are continuing to make hats and other knitted goods for the town's food pantry. What an awesome group!

Volunteers wanted: As always, Marita is looking for volunteers for upcoming sessions. You may contact her at crafts@bacsma.org if you can pitch in.

Reminder: Please remember to send an RSVP to crafts@bacsma.org for any sessions you wish to attend. Thank you!

Bedford Cultural Council Grants



Good news! BACS is in receipt of two grants of \$500 each for the current cycle of Mass Cultural Council/Bedford Cultural Council grants. \$500 will cover the crafting group's service projects, and the second \$500 will support this year's series of artist demonstrations and crafting workshops.

We thank **Heidi Trockman** and **Jane Franklin** (service projects) and **Sylvia Mallory** (artist demos and workshops), who were instrumental in preparing the applications that resulted in the grants. We are grateful too to all the BACS members who have contributed to the success of our art and craft programs.

Volunteers Needed to Research a Possible BACS Facebook Page

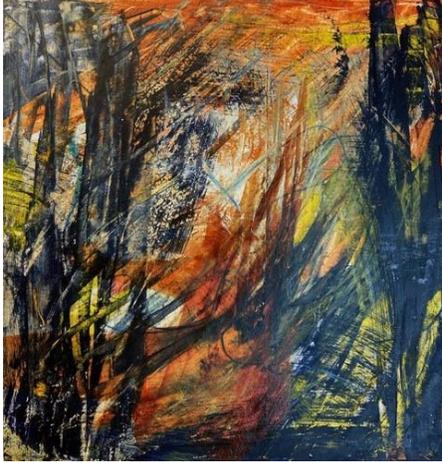
At the latest meeting of the BACS board, members discussed the possibility of starting a BACS Facebook page. It was proposed that a committee be formed to discuss our organizational goals for the page, personal accessibility, functionality, interface, content, and privacy issues. If you'd like to be a part of discussing or researching these considerations, please contact **Judi Babcock** at judibabcock@gmail.com or **Taline Saatjian** at talineks70@gmail.com.

Members' Artwork on Exhibit

Artwork by several BACS artists has been juried into the current Grace Chapel show, "Inside Out": **Florence Como, Anita Feld, Sylvia Mallory, Yvonne Sandell, Doris Smith, and Laura Wallace.** Although the chapel gallery is closed to public viewing due to the most recent Covid surge, you can see a montage of the accepted entries at www.grace.org/artgallery. Simply scroll down to the bottom of the page and take a look! Click on each image to enlarge it.

Shopping on Newbury Street by Florence Como





Doris Smith's painting *California Burning* was accepted in Concord Art's MJ1, Painting and Sculpture. The show continues through February 13. For more info: <https://concordart.org/exhibition/members-juried-i-painting-and-sculpture/#>

California Burning by Doris Smith

Sylvia Mallory's acrylic painting *Mountain View* was juried into the January Artist's Choice show sponsored by Fusion Art. <https://www.fusionartps.com/>



Mountain View by Sylvia Mallory

Ekaterina Klevtsova, who joined BACS last year and who is a practicing M.D., has paintings on display at the Healing Through the Arts Gallery at St. Joseph's Hospital in Nashua, New Hampshire. The show runs to the end of March. Here are two examples of Ekaterina's lovely work (in acrylic) from the show.



Sakura Sunrise (left) and *At the Edge of Wonderland* (below) by Ekaterina Klevtsova



The Concord Free Public Library is hosting a solo show of artwork by **Martha Brill** from February 1 to 28. The exhibition, “Art in a Pandemic,” is an eclectic collection of artistic and poetic adventures showing one woman’s attempt to survive and create art in these trying times.

For additional information, visit <https://concordlibrary.org/news-events/exhibits/>.

***House of Cards* by Martha Brill**



Shamin Koya of Newton is a relatively new member of BACS. Her oil painting *Pigments in My Dream* was selected by curators at Newton Open Studios for the current show “Unquiet,” which continues until

February 27 at Galatea Gallery, 460 Harrison Avenue, Boston. Here’s video tour of the exhibit:

<https://newtonopenstudios.org/video-tour-of-the-unquiet-exhibition/>



***Pigments in My Dream* by Shamin Koya**

In addition, Shamin, who has a background in fashion design and graphic design, has another oil painting on exhibit; this one is featured in the “Embarrassment of Riches” show at the TILL Wave Gallery, 264 Arlington Street, Watertown. The painting, *Calm*, will be on view there till February 12.

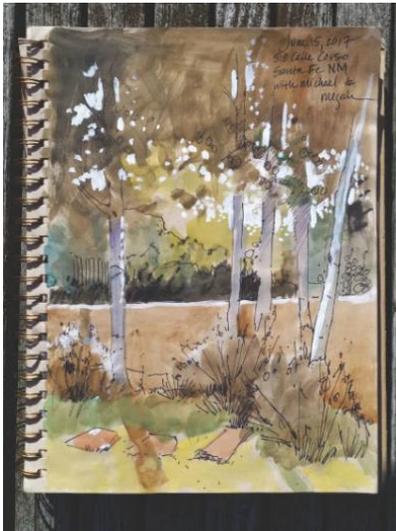


***Calm* by Shamin Koya**

Finally, one of Shamin’s other paintings, titled *O*, was selected for FenceART 2022 by Newton Community Pride. FenceART is a year-round public art project. Each year 20 artists are chosen to showcase a broad range of styles and media.

Resources from the Rocky Neck Art Colony: Start a Sketchbook; Take a Workshop!

If you're thinking of starting a sketchbook for pleasure or to spark ideas for your art or crafts, or if you're already a sketchbook devotee, this cool video, "Establishing a Sketchbook Habit," is for you: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWRsmUjWQVg&ab_channel=RockyNeckArtColony The video is presented by **Loren Doucette** for the Rocky Neck Art Colony (Gloucester) and is filled with a ton of inspiring tips. Check it out!



And if you're dying to get out of the house and try something new, you might want to consider taking a workshop at Rocky Neck. To see the variety of workshops being offered in the coming weeks, take a look here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/rocky-neck-art-colony-32908400501>

Enjoy!

Art in the Area

There are some exciting exhibits running now or coming on the near horizon. Check these out!

"The Artist's Voice: Deana Lawson" at the Institute of Contemporary Art through February 27

This exhibition is dedicated to the work of **Deana Lawson** (b. 1979), a singular voice in photography today. For more than 15 years, Lawson has been investigating and challenging conventional representations of Black life through a wide spectrum of photographic languages, including the family album, studio portraiture, staged tableaux, documentary pictures, and appropriated images. "I photograph family, friends, and strangers, and I operate on the belief that my own being is found in union with those I take pictures of." Institute of Contemporary Art, 25 Harbor Shore Dr., Boston; www.icaboston.org



“Mythic Nature/Renewal” at the Arts League of Lowell through February 27

Sally Chapman creates compositions of an imagined world combining images of statuary in the public and private space merged with an envisioned landscape. The series “Renewal” is a celebration of the enduring nineteenth-century architecture of the city she resides in and the blooming of flowering branches in spring. Arts League of Lowell, 307 Market Street, Lowell, MA; <http://www.artsleagueoflowell.org/>

***Zinnia Path* by Sally Chapman**



Collage by Jean Carter

“Cut and Paste” at the Bedford Free Public Library through March 9

Imaginative and varied collages by four artists are on display until March 9 at the Bedford Free Public Library. Drop by and experience unique work by **Jean Carter, Doron Putka, Kathie Rocha, and Stephanie Stigliano**. Congratulations to **Jean Hammond** and the other members of the library’s Arts Steering Committee for a dazzling show. For additional information: <https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/events/art-exhibits/>

“The Salem Witch Trials: Reckoning and Reclaiming” at the Peabody Essex Museum through March 20

More than 300 years after the Salem witch trials, the personal tragedies and grievous wrongs that occurred still provoke reflection. This exhibition explores the factors that fueled the crisis, including individuals who rose to defend those unjustly accused, and examines two creative responses by contemporary artists with ancestral links to the trials. Peabody Essex Museum, 161 Essex St., Salem, MA; www.pem.org



“Light, Space, Surface: Works from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art” at the Addison Gallery through March 20

This exhibition explores the art of light and space as well as related works with highly polished surfaces often referred to as “finish fetish.” Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy Andover, 180 Main St., Andover, MA; <https://addison.andover.edu>

Red Edge by Roland Reiss from “Light, Space, Surface”

“Members’ Juried 2” (MJ2): Collage, Crafts, Drawing, Graphics, Mixed Media, Photography, Printmaking, at Concord Art, February 24-March 24

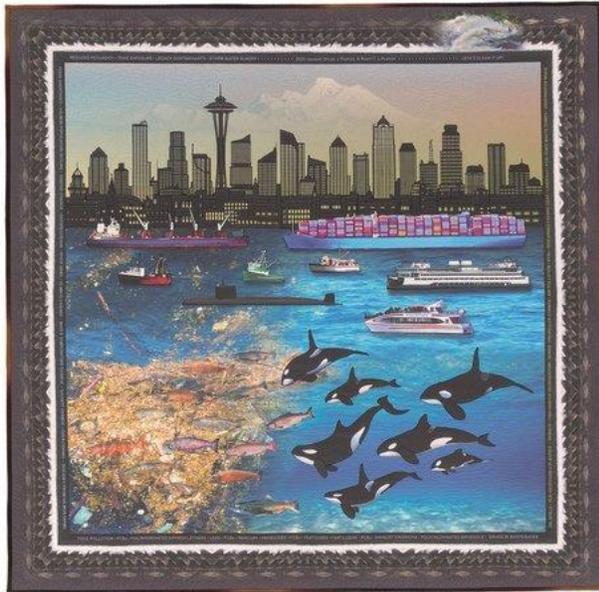
Concord Art will display a range of members’ works in collage, crafts, drawing, graphics, mixed media, photography, and printmaking in its annual MJ2 juried show, which opens on February 24. Concord Art, 27 Lexington Road, Concord, MA; <https://concordart.org/exhibition/members-juried-2-collage-crafts-drawing-graphics-mixed-media-photography-printmaking/>

“Sheldon/Imrich” at Concord Art, February 24-March 24

Collages by **Alexandra Sheldon** and paintings by **Steve Imrich** will be on display in what promises to be an exciting show at Concord Art. “Sheldon/Imrich” opens on February 24. <https://concordart.org/exhibition/sheldon-imrich/>



Art by Steve Imrich (left) and Alexandra Sheldon (right)



“For the Love of Gaia,” and “Flying High” at the New England Quilt Museum, both through April 9

In “For the Love of Gaia,” the New England Quilt Museum celebrates Gaia, the Greek goddess of Earth and mother of all life. Visitors are encouraged to think about what they can do to protect Gaia, whose ancient wisdom and powerful presence sustain all living things.

J Pod, 2020 by Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry from the “Gaia” show

Running contemporaneously with the “Gaia” show is “Flying High: Our Fine Feathered Friends.” This exhibition of contemporary, traditional, and studio-art quilts celebrates birds and the many ways in which they help sustain our delicate ecosystems.

The Mute Swan by Sandra Mollon from “Flying High”



Both shows continue through April 9. New England Quilt Museum, 18 Shattuck St, Lowell, MA; <https://www.neqm.org/on-view-index>

“Georgia O’Keeffe, Photographer,” at the Addison Gallery; February 26 - June 12

Known for her paintings, **Georgia O’Keeffe** also had a lifelong connection to photography, as this exhibit explores. Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy Andover, 180 Main St., Andover, MA; www.addison.andover.edu

Calls for Entries: Opportunities to Exhibit Art

“Members’ Juried 2” at Concord Art, on view February 24-March 24

Accepted media for Concord Art’s MJ2 competition include photography, drawing, mixed media, crafts, and graphics. Work must have been completed within the last three years and not previously exhibited at Concord Art. Intake is on Tuesday, February 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.,

Wednesday, February 16, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Thursday, February 17, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For details and the prospectus, go to <https://concordart.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/MJ2-Prospectus-2022.pdf>.

“Renewal” at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery, Lexington, MA, on view March 12-April 29



The next show at Lexington’s Grace Chapel will have the theme “Renewal.” Drop-off is on March 2 and 5. The exhibit will run from March 12 through April 29. For further information, visit www.grace.org/artgallery.

“Among the Trees” Centennial Juried Exhibition at Concord Art, on view March 31-May 8

As part of Concord Art’s centennial celebration (1922-2022), the association is inviting members to be part of a special exhibition in the Members’ Gallery. In conjunction with the exhibition in the Main Galleries, this show will be a celebration of trees. Both exhibitions are in honor of CA founder **Elizabeth Wentworth Roberts**, who was inspired by trees in her own artwork. All artwork for this show must be black and white and submitted digitally. Members are invited to submit one piece.



There is no submission fee. Submissions are due March 14. For the prospectus go to <https://concordart.org/exhibition2/among-the-trees/>.

“Variations 2022” at the Marblehead Arts Association, on view April 23-June 19, 2022

The Marblehead Arts Association (MAA) is inviting artists, both MAA members and nonmembers, from across the country to participate in the MAA’s Centennial National Exhibit “Variations 2022,” an 8-week, juried exhibit of 2D and 3D artwork. Entries will be juried for acceptance and judged for prizes in Fine Art, Photography, and 3D works. Winners will be awarded at the Opening Reception on April 24, 2022. Online submission closes February 15. Entry info can be found at <https://marbleheadarts.org/>.

“A Window to the Universe” at the Art Center, Dover, NH, on view May 9-June 30

The Art Center in Dover, New Hampshire, has announced a call for entries for the upcoming show “A Window to the Universe.” This juried astrophotography and astro-art competition and exhibition will feature images of celestial objects reflecting the wonder of the universe. All



forms of astrophotography, from star trails to high-resolution planetary images, plus other media forms with an astronomical focus, will be eligible.

Submissions are due March 19. The exhibit will run from May 9 to June 30. For additional details, visit www.theartcenterdover.com.

Corrected Contact Information for Two Members

Please note two typos in the 2021-2022 edition of the BACS Yearbook.

- **Marita Hartshorn's** correct address is 28 Locust Street, Lexington.
- **Nancy Allen's** correct e-mail address is wnallen1@gmail.com

Please update your files. Thank you!

Call for Artists: Bedford Utility Box Project

The Town of Bedford has identified two utility boxes that are available for painting. Visit <https://www.bedfordma.gov/home/news/call-for-artists-bedford-ma-utility-box-project?s=03steps> to read about the steps needed to design, get approved, and paint a utility box. For more information contact **Sarah Scoville**, Utility Box Project Coordinator, at sscoville11@gmail.com. Thanks to **Laura Wallace** for this tip!



Design Opportunity

Barb Purchia recently spoke with **Jeff Venuti**, a Bedford resident who produces and sells mead. Not familiar with mead? It turns out that it's an alcoholic beverage made with honey. You can learn more about Jeff's business, Bliss Point Meadery, here: <https://blisspointmeadery.com/>. Jeff would like to have a local artist design a label for one of his new meads. If you're interested in pursuing this interesting opportunity, you can connect with Jeff at jeff@blisspointmeadery.com.

Artist Support Group

The BACS artist support group meets every other Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is on February 9. For details, please e-mail **Judi Babcock** at judibabcock@gmail.com.

Although the group had been holding hybrid meetings where some attended in person and others Zoomed in, participants will meet exclusively via Zoom until further notice. Details will be forthcoming via e-mail. The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81678201720?pwd=a28rZ0k5eVZKakxSRTNxQWR1NkRBZz09>

Love Is in the Air

Like his romantic paintings, **Marc Chagall's** life was filled with love and warmth. The Russian-French artist was a one-woman man who fell in love with **Bella**, who later went on to become his wife. Chagall described Bella as his inspiration. Bella and Marc's love story brings to mind his expressionist painting *The Birthday*.



This dreamlike scene of the artist and Bella was painted just before their marriage. While Bella is given the full spotlight, the artist doesn't show much of himself. We can reflect on his love for his muse and her central place in his life through the stage-sharing in the painting. The fanciful poses and setting vividly capture the happiness and joy present in the bond of love. Happy Valentine's Day!

The Birthday, 1915, by Marc Chagall (1887-1985)